

EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1947.

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P.H. DEPT.,  
EXMOUTH.



# I N D E X.

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## EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PH/2109/4.

Public Health Dept.  
12, Rolle St.  
Exmouth.ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR  
ENDING 31st. DECEMBER, 1947.

Mr. Chairman, Madam &amp; Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith my Annual Report for the year ending 31st. December, 1947.

In June 1947, your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Doyle, took up his duties as Deputy County Medical Officer with the Devon County Council. In consequence, Dr. Mackenzie-Wintle, was appointed as temporary Medical Officer of Health, which office he held until October 20th 1947, when your present Medical Officer of Health commenced duties in Exmouth.

Regarding the general health of the community in the district, this has remained satisfactory and, with the exception of a rather high incidence of measles in the first quarter of the year, no outbreaks of infectious disease occurred. It is particularly gratifying to note that no cases of Diphtheria were notified, this being due in great part to the energetic manner with which the Council's Immunisation Scheme had been maintained.

It is now some ten years since you have had a comprehensive survey of the statistics relative to your district, I have therefore taken this opportunity of summarising the facts available and presenting them to you in this report.

Finally I should like to record my appreciation of the sympathetic help, consideration and support shown to me at all times by your Council and to thank all members of my staff for the loyal and conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

*L. G. Anderson*

Medical Officer of Health.



S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health.

L.G. ANDERSON M.D. , D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

MR. E.A.C. LONG A.R.S.I. , M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

MR. K.W. CLEMENT. Cert. R.S.I. , M.S.I.A.

Engineer, Surveyor & Water Engineer.

MR. R.J. HUMPHREYS M.I. , Mun. E. , M.R. San. I.

Deputy Engineer, Surveyor & Water Engineer.

MR. B.K. WARNER. A.M.I.C.E. , A.M.I.W.E.

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health & Sanitary Inspector.

MRS. P.A. LACK.

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1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	5295	
Resident Population Mid-Year 1947	(as estimated by the Registrar General)				...	16,400
Number of inhabited houses(end of 1947)	...	...	...	...	5039(approx.)	
Rateable Value (end of 1947)	...	...	...	...	£175,865	
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£705	

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) Live Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	126	123	249
Illegitimate	9	7	16
Total	135	130	265

Live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ...16.2  
Live birth rate per 1,000 of civilian population  
England & Wales .....20.5

(b) Still Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total	6	3	9

Still birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population .....0.55  
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live births.....34.2  
Still birth rate per 1,000 of civilian population  
England & Wales.....0.50

(c) Deaths.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	126	169	295
Corrected death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	..18.0		
Corrected death rate per 1,000 of civilian population	England & Wales .....12.0		
Deaths from puerperal causes	.....Nil.		



(e) Infant Mortality.  
(Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.)

	Males	Females	Total.
Legitimate	4	8	12
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	5	8	13

Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births .....49.3  
 Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births  
 England & Wales .....41.

(3) BIRTH RATE.

During the year under review 135 male and 130 female (total 265) infants were born and as compared with the previous year showed a decrease in rate from 18.8 in 1946 to 16.2 in 1947. The following table shows the birth rates during the last 10 years.

1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
9.8	10.1	7.8	8.5	12.6	14.8	15.8	15.2	18.8	16.2

The decreased rate in 1940, 41 and 42 no doubt coincided with the calling-up of male personnel together with the inevitable feeling of insecurity at that time. As conditions became more stabilised the birth rate again began to rise up to the post war peak in 1946. Following this peak the expected fall to 16.2 in 1947 occurred.

(4) ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE.

The illegitimate birth rate for 1947 was 60.7 and somewhat lower than that for the previous year (72.2). This rate represents the number of illegitimate live births per 1,000 of total legitimate and illegitimate live births registered in the district.

The illegitimate birth rate for the past 10 years are as follows:-

1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
65.3	18.4	65.0	71.0	81.0	90.0	110	109	72.2	60.7

It is encouraging to note that the illegitimate birth rate which was at its peak in 1944 has now fallen to lower than that of 1938.

(5) STILL BIRTHS.

As calculated per 1,000 live births the still birth rate of 55 shows an increase over that for the preceeding year (30.6) but is lower than those for 1945, 1944 and 1943.

When calculated as the rate per 1,000 estimated population the figure of 0.55 is just slightly higher than that for England and Wales as a whole (0.50).



(6) DEATHS.

During the year 295 persons (126 males and 169 female) died which gives a death rate per 1,000 resident population (corrected for inward and outward transfers) of 18. Although this rate is lower than that for the preceeding year(19.8) it is considerably higher than that for England and Wales. This apparently high death rate is explained by the fact that many elderly people choose to spend the remaining years of their life in enjoyable retirement at Exmouth where the absence of large industrial concerns necessitates the migration to areas outside the district of many of the younger males and to a lesser extent females.

Below is given a table showing the causes of deaths (date supplied by the Registrar General.)

Disease	Males	Females	Total.
Tuberculosis			
Respiratory	2	7	9
Other Forms.	1	1	2
Influenza	1	1	2
Measles	-	1	1
Acute infective encephalitis	1	-	1
Cancer			
Mouth, gullet and uterus	1	2	3
Stomach and duodenum	2	5	7
Breast	-	7	7
All other sites	13	10	
Diabetes	1	1	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	13	25	38
Heart Disease	49	56	105
Other diseases of the circulatory system.	2	7	9
Bronchitis	1	5	6
Pneumonia	3	4	7
Other respiratory diseases	2	2	4
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	2	3
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1	-	1
Other digestive diseases	4	4	8
Nephritis	9	9	18
Prematurity, congenital malformation, birth injuries, infant diseases.	2	8	10
Suicide		2	2
Other violent causes	4	1	5
All other causes.	12	9	21
All cases.	126	169	295





From the previous table it will be seen that the most prevalent cause of death was Heart disease (105 cases) which together with Cerebral haemorrhage (38 cases) accounted for nearly half of the total deaths.

The average age at death of those who died during 1947 was 73 years.  
The average age at death during the past 10 years is as follows:-

1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
65	72	70	67	68	70	70	72	72	73

The following table shows the incidence of deaths at various age groups (from returns supplied by local Registrar of Births & Deaths.)

Age Group	Males	Females	Total.
Under 1 yr.	5	8	13
1, and under 2 yrs.			
2 - 5		2	2
5 - 10			
10 - 20	2		2
20 - 30		2	2
30 - 40	3	3	6
40 - 50	4	8	12
50 - 60	10	9	19
60 - 70	23	35	58
70 - 80	48	42	90
80 - 90	26	52	78
90 - 100	5	8	13
All ages.	126	169	295

(7) INFANT MORTALITY.

Thirteen infants under the age of one year died during the year which represents an infant mortality rate of 49.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 41 for England and Wales.

The causes of death of these babies is tabulated overpage, where it will be noted that the most prevalent causes of death were prematurity (4 cases), birth injuries (2 cases) and blood diseases of the new born - 2 cases.





Sex	Age	Cause of death.
F	10 minutes	Birth injury.
F	2 hours	Birth injury.
F	1 day	Congenital Heart disease.
F	4 days	Prematurity
F	4 days	Prematurity
M	4 days	Blood disease of the new born.
F	6 days	Prematurity
M	1 week	Prematurity
F	9 days	Blood disease of the new born.
M	3 weeks	Accidental death (suffocation)
M	4 mths	Gastro-enteritis.
M	5 mths.	Tuberculous meningitis.
F	6 mths.	Intestinal disease(intussus- ception.)

8. ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

	Males	Females	Total.
Smallpox			
Measles		1	1
Whooping Cough.			
Scarlet Fever			
Enteric Fever			
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1		1
Total.	1	1	2

9. CANCER. During the year 40 deaths from cancer were recorded viz;

Parts of the Body affected	Males	Females	Total.
Mouth & oesphagus	1	-	1
Stomach & duodenum	2	5	7
Breast	-	7	7
Uterus	-	2	2
All other sites	13	10	23
Total	16	24	40



The incidence of cancer during the last ten years is as follows:-

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
No: of cases	53	32	28	53	34	54	39	40	68	40
Rate per 1,000 resident pop-ulation.	3.55	2.02	1.56	2.65	2.03	3.58	2.5	2.55	4.56	2.43

#### 10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES. (other than Tuberculosis)

Except for the sharp rise in the number of notifications of Measles the incidence of Infectious Disease was low during the year. No outbreaks of Infectious Disease occurred and I am pleased to report that no cases of poliomyelitis were notified. No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred.

The incidence of infectious diseases for 1947 is tabulated herewith.

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Measles	127	-	1
Whooping Cough	40	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	-	-
Total.	175	1	1

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases grouped according to age.

	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Total.
Measles	3	2	21	17	17	33	21	6	6	1	-	-	127
Whooping Cough	7	1	7	7	5	3	8	-	1	-	1	-	40
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All causes	11	3	28	24	32	36	30	7	7	4	2	1	175



Table showing the incidence (numbers notified) of various infectious diseases during the last 10 years.

Diseases	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Measles	+	+	728	198	6	40	148	233	11	127
Whooping Cough	+	+	49	96	27	39	59	43	53	40
Scarlet Fever	5	32	44	53	17	7	25	6	13	2
Diphtheria.	-	14	11	16	2	2	2	1	3	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2	1	5	3	5	2	-	2	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	7	4	15	19	4	11	3	5	4	2
Erysipelas	4	7	4	6	4	4	4	4	-	1

+ Not notifiable at that time.

#### 11. MEASLES.

The low incidence of Measles in 1946 (11 cases) resulted in a relatively large number of susceptible children in the child population of the following year. The fairly high incidence during 1947 was therefore not unexpected. One of these cases a little girl of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years unfortunately developed the complication of pneumonia and died. A relatively high incidence of Measles was recorded in the country as a whole viz.

	1st. quarter	2nd. quarter	3rd. quarter	4th quarter	Total.
1946	17,375	42,166	34,732	65,192	159,465.
1947	163,516	136,539	60,317	32,750	393,122

The monthly incidence of Measles in Exmouth U.D.C is shown in the following table.

1947.												
Jan	Feb	Mars	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total.
13	38	59	7	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	127

#### 12. WHOOPING COUGH.

Although 40 cases of Whooping Cough were notified it is not considered that this represents an accurate picture of the incidence owing to the great difficulty in diagnosing mild cases and the fact that many parents do not consult their doctors in the mild attacks.

#### 13. SCARLET FEVER.

Only two cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and the incidence was not only most satisfactorily low but was the lowest for 10 years.





14. DIPHTHERIA

The fact that no cases of this disease occurred in your district during 1947 reflects great credit on the energetic and thorough manner in which the Immunisation of school children and pre-school children has been carried out in your district by my predecessors and the general practitioners.

15. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Under the existing scheme the County Council is responsible for the Immunisation of children under 5 years of age and the Urban District Council for those over that age. The Immunisation clinic was continued throughout the year on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30 p.m.

The following table shows the immunisation state of the children in your district on 31st. December 1947.

	Under School Age					School Age		Total.
	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	
Number immunised at any time up to 31st. Dec. 1947.	34	172	143	180	177	759	838	
		706				1597		2303
Estimated mid- year child pop- ulation.		1140				1930		3070
Percentage Immunised		62				82.7		75.

16. TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 23 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified of which 12 were male and 11 were female. The majority (18 cases) of the notifications were of tuberculosis of the lungs and the remainder (5 cases) were of the glands of neck - 3 cases, abdominal glands 1 case, and genital system 1 case. Only 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred amongst the child population in Exmouth.

The following table gives the incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis since 1938:-

		1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
PULMONARY	M	-	13	5	6	2	10	7	5	8	11
	F	3	15	13	9	10	8	5	4	4	7
NON-PULMONARY	M	-	1	1	1	1	4	1	-	1	1
	F	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	2	-	4
Total		6	32	20	17	14	25	16	11	13	23





The age distribution of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis which occurred during 1947 are as follows:-

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1							1	
1-								
5-			1					
15-	1	1						
25-	4	2		2		3		
35-	4	1		1		1		
45-	1			1	1	1		
55-		1			1	2		
65-	1	2						1
All Ages.	11	7	1	4	2	7	1	1
	18		5		9		2	
	Total 23				Total 11			

The number of cases still on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year.

	Males	Females	Total.
Pulmonary	39	23	62
Non-Pulmonary	13	26	39
	52	49	101

On receipt of the notification of a case of Tuberculosis the housing conditions, milk supply etc. are investigated in collaboration with the County Tuberculosis Officer and where necessary appropriate recommendation made to the Housing Committee.

Until July 5th. 1948 the responsible authority for prevention, treatment and aftercare of Tuberculosis Disease is the County Council. After that date the Regional Hospital Board will be responsible for the treatment of Tuberculous patients in Sanatorium and the Local Health Authority will be responsible for prevention, domiciliary treatment and after care.

#### 17. VENEREAL DISEASE.

The responsible authority for the prevention and treatment of Venereal Disease is at present the County Council - after July 5th this service will be administered by the Regional Hospitals Board.



Under the present scheme free advice and treatment is available<sup>12.</sup> to all persons at the following Centres :-

	Males	Females.
<u>EXETER</u>		
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.	Mon. 3 - 5 p.m. Fri. 6 - 8 p.m.	Mon. 6 - 7 p.m. Fri. 3 - 5 p.m.
<u>TORQUAY</u>		
Torbay Hospital.	Tues & Weds. 5.30 - 7.30 p.m. (Mon.Fri.& Sat. 10.30 a.m. - 1230 p.m. 6 - 8 p.m. No Medical Officer in attendance.)	Thurs. 4.30 - 8.30 p.m.
<u>BARNSTAPLE</u>		
North Devon Infirmary Annex.	Mon. 5.15-6.15p.m. Thurs. 5.45-6.45p.m.	Mon. 4-5 p.m. Thurs. 4.30 p.m.
<u>PLYMOUTH.</u>		
City Hospital.	Mon.Thurs.& Sats. 6 - 7.30 p.m. Tues.10-11.30 a.m.	Thurs & Fri.10-11.30 a.m. Sats. 3 - 4.30 p.m. Weds. 6 - 7.30 p.m.

A refund of rail or bus fares can be made in suitable cases by applying to the Medical Officer of the Centre or to the County Medical Officer.

Where, on account of the difficulty of travelling or other reason, a patient is unable to attend the Centre, free treatment can be obtained from any of the undermentioned practitioners who have been approved by the Ministry of Health under Circular 2226.

Dr. White-Cooper	Montague Dartmouth.
Dr. Michaelmore	Sidlands Lodge, Sidmouth.
Dr. W.J. Venniquet	Barnfield, Kingsbridge.
Dr. M.B. Dixey	Cross Tree House, Mortonhamstead.
Mrs. Dixey	Cross Tree House, Mortonhamstead.
Dr. C.V. Falvey	18 Church St. Modbury.
Dr. A.R. Dommett	Codner Acre, Salcombe.
Dr. F.O. Lindsey	8 Endsleigh Terrace, Tavistock.
Dr. G. Nicholson	11 St. Peter's St. Tiverton.
Dr. M. Brown	Western House, Chudleigh.
Dr. W. Freeth	6 Widemouth Bay, Bude.
Dr. N. Bowring-Betts	Cleverdon House, Bradworthy.
Dr. T.A. Cadman	Ashdene, Elberton, Nr. Plymouth.
Dr. W.H. Simonds	Chillington, Nr. Kingsbridge.

#### 18. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological and Serological examination are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, 7 Dix's Field, Exeter under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

#### 19. HOSPITAL FACILITIES. (a) General.

The Urban District is well served by the Exmouth Cottage Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth (Phone Exmouth 2283) where there is accommodation for:-

Male	5 beds.
Female	16 beds.
Children	5 beds. 5 cots.
Private wards	8.



This hospital has been selected as the plastic surgery centre for Devon and Mr. Emllyn Lewis of the City General Hospital, Gloucester attends.

In addition to the above use is made of :-

1. Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East (phone 2261.) - 324 beds.
2. Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Buckerell Bore, Exeter (phone Exeter 54217) - 114 beds.
3. West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter (Exeter 3183) 57 beds.

(b) Maternity.

- (1) Poltimore Nursing Home - 12 beds.
- (2) Redhills House. St Thomas Exeter. (Public Assistance Institution.)
- (3) Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital for complicated or difficult cases.

(c) Isolation.

Exeter City Isolation Hospital, Whipton (Exeter 67158). By agreement with the Exeter City Council the arrangement whereby any cases of infectious diseases arising in the district and in need of hospital treatment can be admitted to the above Isolation Hospital has been continued.

The following table summarises the details of cases admitted during 1947:-

Disease	Age	Sex	Date of Admission	Date of Discharge.
Scarlet Fever	14	M	3.2.47	5.3.47
Whooping Cough & Pneumonia	5	F	24.6.47	died 27.6.47
Tonsillitis (? Poliomyelitis)	6	M	21.11.47	3.12.47
Sub-acute rheumatism (? Poliomyelitis)	10	F	27.12.47	17.1.48
Mumps	8	M	14.12.47	31.12.47

I should like to record my sincere appreciation for the ready help and co-operation given at all times by the Medical Superintendent and staff of the Whipton Isolation Hospital.

Smallpox. A smallpox hospital of 46 beds at Upton Pyne administered by the County Council is available in case of need.

20. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) General. The St John's Ambulance Service continued its excellent work throughout the year and attended 115 Accidents, 29 Fires, and carried to home or hospital a total of 699 patients. The ambulance covered a total mileage of 12,875.

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station, Bastin Hall, Elm Grove, Exmouth (phone 2857.)





It is understood that under the National Health Service Act which comes into force on July 5th, the present St. John's Ambulance Service will operate as heretofore but the Local Health Authority will be responsible for the maintenance of ambulances, payment of personnel etc.

It is emphasized, however, that although no charge will be made for the use of the ambulances after that date, voluntary subscriptions will still be required not only to cover the cost of uniforms of personnel but for the maintenance of the other valuable services rendered by the St. John's Ambulance Association e.g. Bastin Hall Station and the Beach Hut First Aid Station, the latter being run in conjunction with the Red Cross Society.

(b) Infectious Diseases. As in the previous year the Exeter City Council's infectious disease ambulance station at Whipton Isolation Hospital was used during 1947 for the transport of infectious cases, and I should like to record my appreciation of the efficient and courteous manner in which that service answered our calls.

## 21. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Infant Welfare Centre was transferred from the Exmouth Dispensary to St. Clements, Exeter Rd. during September 1947, and was held on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. During the year the following attendances were made:-

Total No: of attendances of mothers.	Total No: of babies attending.	Total No: of Toddlers attending.
2687	2242	586
(of which 173 cases were first attendances.)	(of which 146 were first attendances.)	(of which 25 were first attendances)

## 22. SCHOOL CLINIC.

The School Clinic is now held on Monday and Thursday mornings at "St Clements", Exeter Rd. Exmouth. This building was taken over by the Devon County Council in September 1947, and serves for School Clinics and Immunisation Clinic. During the year 2,212 children ( of which 779 were new cases) were treated at the Clinic.

## 23. WATER SUPPLY.

(a) Sources of supply. No new sources of supply have been utilized during the year, the town being supplied in the main by the borehole at Dotton supplemented by water from the catchment area at Squabmoor.

(b) Quality. The water has been very satisfactory in quality during the year and of the 12 bacteriological samples taken all were satisfactory. The last analysis is as follows:-

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER (Sampled 12.12.47. )

W 1568.	High Filters, Exmouth Reservoir. Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. = nil.
W 1569	Lower Filters, Exmouth Reservoir. Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. = nil.
W 1570	East Budleigh Reservoir. Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. = nil.
W 1571	Bystock Reservoir. Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. = nil.





A new chlorinating station was constructed at the High Level works at Capel Lane, the equipment provided including a chlorinator and amoniator together with a chlorine residual recorder and this represented a great advance on the previous method of sterilization. A continuous record is now available at these works of adequate sterilization of the water. The water from the catchment area at Squabmoor and Bystock has plumbo-solvent action but the Council's wise decision not to allow the installation of any lead services for drinking purposes has prevented any incidents of trouble in this direction.

(c) Quantity. The demand during the summer season was such as to extend the undertaking to its absolute limit. The need for increasing the output at Dotton is urgent and is being dealt with by the proposal to sink a further borehole and instal new pumping machinery in the Station. These works must be followed as quickly as possible by the provision of adequate storage capacity in the Town for the reception of the Dotton water and the laying of trunk mains to it of sufficient size to carry the increased flow from Dotton Pumping Station.

(d) There are at present 4,970 properties connected to the main supply. During 1947 34 connections were made.

#### 24. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The development at Courtlands Cross, at Marley and Marley Way is not served by sewers and it is hoped that the provision of these will be put in hand as soon as the Government's restrictions on capital expenditure is raised. During the year schemes have been prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers for the reconstruction of the Sheppards Row Pumping Station and for the provision of a new pumping station at the foot of Hartopp Road which will eliminate any flooding in the low lying area of the Town between Exeter Road and the Railway. The laying of a new sewer from Courtlands Cross to Mudbank Lane was commenced and on completion this will deal with surface water from the higher part of Exeter Road and the development in Featherbed Lane and the Seymour Road area.

#### 25. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These were inspected regularly to see that they were maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. The Council approved a scheme for the provision of three new Public Conveniences, two to be on the Sea Front and one to be in the Exeter Road area to replace the existing underground conveniences at Mona Island. Plans were prepared for the first of the new Conveniences on the Sea Front near the Swimming Pool and an application was made to the Ministry of Health for permission to put the works in hand.

#### 26. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The Council purchased a Gulley Emptyer and Cleanser Machine during the year to obviate the cleaning of gullies by hand, and also to provide a more regular service of gulley emptying. Refuse has continued to be disposed of by means of controlled tipping at the King George V. Grounds and some nuisance has been caused at high tides through the lack of protection to the face of the tip. Plans were prepared and estimates obtained during the year for the construction of a steel piling wall around the limit of the area which the Council intend to reclaim. When this wall has been constructed any nuisance should be obviated. Attention should be given, however, to the question of the disposal of refuse in Tynemouth when the present area at the King George V Grounds is filled and either further land should be sought within the Urban District for controlled tipping, or consideration given to the provision of a Refuse Destructor of modern type.



27. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Tabular statement furnished by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>No: of Inspections.</u>
Premises visited .....	1010	2180
New Drains .....	2	5
Drains repaired .....	29	46
Nuisances abated .....	86	139
W.C.'s constructed & repaired.....	22	33
Disinfection of bedding (lots) .....	12	-
Disinfection of houses. ....	32	57
Common lodging houses. ....	1	6
Food shops. ....	98	764
Bakehouses. ....	18	32
Dairies and cowsheds. ....	49	137
Ashbins provided. ....	16	20
House roofs repaired. ....	24	52
House yard paving repaired. ....	47	49
House walls and floors repaired. ....	85	95
Other house repairs. ....	118	123

Number of Informal notices served (general) ---- 173.

In addition to the above approximately 500 visits were made to requisitioned properties, public conveniences and camp sites.

28. SHOPS AND OFFICES.

During the year 324 shops were inspected under the Shops Act 1934 and in one case only was any defect found. This was remedied as a result of informal action.

29. CAMPING SITES.

There were three sites in the area used during 1947 as camping sites and so licensed by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936. The estimated number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season was 2175 in 725 dwellings.

30. SWIMMING POOL.

A scheme was prepared by the Engineer & Surveyor for the installation of a filtration plant at the Swimming Pool but in view of the present limited area of the Pool and the necessity for restricting capital expenditure as much as possible this scheme was postponed indefinitely, and a decision made to provide an up-to-date sterilization apparatus and to adopt the Break-Point system of chlorination.

31. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Houses ( Council) found to be infested .....	0
Number of Houses (other than Council) -do- .....	5
Number of Houses -do- disinfectd.....	5

In consequence of action taken under Section 83 and 84 of the Public Health Act 1935, Hydrocyanic Acid gas was used by contractor (Associated Fumigators Ltd. ) For the remaing 4 use was made of "Thermatox and Gammexane D 034.





32. RATS & MICE.

General. During the year there were some complaints regarding rats and mice, all of them being dealt with either by the occupier or the Council. Most of the complaints about rats were from private houses where poultry was being kept in the gardens.

Sewer Rats:- As requested by the Ministry of Food a test was made of the sewers for sewer rats from 30th June 1947 to 13th July 1947. 10% of the total manholes were treated and 200 baits laid. As two consecutive "no takes" were recorded on alternate days for each manhole baited the sewer system was considered to be free from rats.

Council Property:- During the year 4 treatments have been carried out at King George V. Ground, Refuse Tip and the Depot.

Withycombe Brook:- A further complete treatment was made from end to end and follow-up treatment made to clear any residual infestation.

During the year 148 visits were made and it is estimated that a total of some 500 rats have been exterminated.

33. HOUSING.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	229
Number of inspections made for the purpose.	418
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	191
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action.	187

34. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 11 & 13. OF THE HOUSING ACT. 1936.

Number of houses repaired to standard to satisfaction of the Council .....	1
Number of houses in which an undertaking not to use for human habitation was accepted by the Council.....	1

35. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12. OF THE HOUSING ACT. 1936.

Number of separate dwellings in which an undertaking not to use for human habitation was accepted by the Council .....	2
Number of families rehoused in Council houses and requisitioned properties .....	134

36. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.(a) Milk Supply.

The 24 cowsheds and 22 milk shops in the area have been systematically inspected, samples were taken and tested by the County Bacteriologist with the following results.

<u>Description of milk.</u>	<u>No: of samples.</u>	<u>Passed Accredited standard.</u>	<u>Failed.</u>
Ordinary	65	50	15
1st. Repeat	-	7	3
2nd. Repeat	-	1	2
3rd. Repeat	-	2	-
4th. Repeat	-	-	-

Samples of Specially Designated Milk are taken by the County Council staff. Accredited samples are also now taken by the County Council.



(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Regular visits were paid to meat shops, cooked meat shops and fish shops where food is sold or prepared. Visits were also paid to the provision stores and the amount of food surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year was 3 tons 2 cwt. 0 qrs. 0 lbs.

(c) Ice-cream.

During the year 107 samples of ice-cream were taken from manufacturers in the district, for bacteriological examination at the County Laboratory.

The results were communicated to the respective producers and advice given as to how they could improve and maintain cleanliness in their methods of production.

This procedure helped the producers to eliminate some of the causes of contamination and with their co-operation a marked improvement has been made in the bacteriological standard of the product.

37. FACTORIES ACT. 1937.1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspect ions	Written Notices	
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	35	51	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	62	73	2	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers premises.)	-	-	-	-
Total.	97	124	2	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.					
Overcrowding					
Unreasonable temperature					
Inadequate ventilation					
Ineffective drainage of floors					
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient.		2		2	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1			1	
(c) Not separate for sexes.	1				
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork.)		1		1	
Total.	2	3		4	







